

Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) 40th Anniversary

On-screen text: In 2020, CDC celebrates 40 years of the Field Epidemiology Training Program, or FETP. In more than 80 countries, CDC has supported partner-government efforts to train a local workforce of qualified “disease detectives”.

On-screen graphic: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Logo

John MacArthur, MD, MPH, Country Director

Director, CDC Thailand: We started in Thailand in 1980, with the establishment of the Field Epidemiology Training Program. Based on their successes with FETP they are now providing leadership around the world.

Jared Omolo, MD, Epidemiologist, CDC Rwanda: We train the people who we sometimes call 'disease detectives'. They go beneath the surface to try and identify what are the causes, what can we do to control the diseases.

Emily Zielinski Gutierrez, DrPH, Director, CDC Central America Region: FETP is really one of the most exciting programs that we have. It has allowed us to work shoulder-to-shoulder with a lot of the governments throughout the region.

Innocent Turate, MD, MScPH, Head of Institute of HIV/AIDS, Disease Prevention and Control, Rwanda Biomedical Centre: It's really very important program for the country, but also for the Ministry of Health and for our programs in general. CDC has been the main partner in launching this FETP program but also in sustaining this program.

Tushar Singh, MD, PhD, MS, Country Director, CDC Sierra Leone: We have seen the government actually take steps to ensure there is focus on prevention. One of the examples is Field Epidemiology Training Program where we are training field epidemiologists who are Sierra Leoneans, but we are training them as mentors who are now taking over mentorship of these programs.

Fatmata Binta Dambatta-Jalloh, FETP Graduate, Sierra Leone: It's worth it because if you educate one person you educate a lot of people because everybody around me will be using this knowledge.

On-screen text: Since 1980, CDC has supported the training of more than 18,000 disease detectives.

On-screen graphic: Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) 40th Anniversary

On-screen text: To learn more about CDC's global health work, please visit www.cdc.gov/globalhealth. Follow @CDCGlobal on social media: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Flickr.